

REMARKS

Claims 1-13 are pending in the application. No new matter has been presented.

Rejections under 35 USC §103(a)

Claims 1, 3, 4, 7, 8, and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Hisatsune (JP 61-62575A) in view of Swiggett et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,693,778, herein "Swiggett") and Ikushima et al. (WO 02/103202A1, newly cited, relying upon US 2005/0063839 as an English equivalent, herein "Ikushima").

Claims 2, 10, 11, 12 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Hisatsune, Swiggett and Ikushima as applied to claims 1, 3, 4, 7, 8 and 9 above, and further in view of Keyworth et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,534,101, herein "Keyworth").

Claim 5 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Hisatsune, Swiggett and Ikushima as applied to claims 1, 3, 4, 7, 8 and 9 above, and further in view of Keyworth et al. and Hawkins (U.S. Patent No. 3,742,107).

Claims 6, and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Hisatsune, Swiggett and Ikushima as applied to claims 1, 3, 4, 7, 8 and 9 above, and further in view of Yamaguchi et al. (US 2001/0011413, newly cited, herein "Yamaguchi")

Claims 12 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Hisatsune, Swiggett and Ikushima as applied to claims 1, 3, 4, 7, 8 and 9 above, and further in view of Inaba et al. (US 2002/0112821, herein "Inaba").

Responding to Applicants' previous response, the Examiner alleged as follows:

Applicant argues Hisatsune is not analogous prior art. Hisatsune discloses a method applying a wire to a substrate by passing a wire through a nozzle. While Hisatsune does not explicitly disclose the wire is an optical fiber, Swiggett teaches wire application devices can apply a variety of wires including optical fibers. As for the apparatus claims, the type of wire used is the material worked upon which is not limited by the method steps described in the apparatus claims. The apparatus of Hisatsune would be capable of performing the method steps disclosed in the apparatus claims. Hisatsune considered analogous art.

(Office Action, page 9, item 7). However, the Examiner's allegation is not properly based on the disclosure of the references.

The present invention is directed to an **optical fiber wiring** method on a substrate and an optical fiber wiring apparatus.

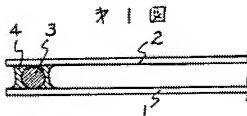
On the other hand, Hisatsune discloses a method of sticking two plates together with putting a space piece between them, to simplify operation. In order to improve efficiency, Hisatsune places a core coated with an adhesive, which is fed from a nozzle on a given position on the plate, piling the other plate on the core, pasting the plates together (Abstract, PURPOSE). Thus, Hisatsune is in the field of **bonding two plates** together or in the field of **manufacturing a sheet holder** such as a card case.

Hisatsune is a reference in a field significantly different from that of applicant's endeavor. Also, Hisatsune is not reasonably pertinent because the matter with which it deals, logically would NOT have commended itself to the present inventor's attention in considering his or her invention as a whole.

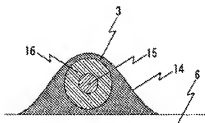
Moreover, Hisatsune is trying to decrease the cost of material in manufacturing a sheet holder such as a card case (page (1), bottom right column, last full paragraph). A person of ordinary skill in the art would not be motivated to use such expensive material as optical fibers for

the purpose. Thus, it would destroy an intended purpose of Hisatsune to combine the teaching of Hisatsune with optical fibers.

Furthermore, because Hisatsune adheres two plates, it is necessary to supply sufficient adhesive in a way that the adhesive 4 is supplied to the upper side of the core wire 3 (See the drawing below).



In contrast, according to the present invention is to adhere an optical fiber on a single substrate, the adhesive is not required to be maintained equally on the upper side and the lower side (see the drawing below).



Thus, there is no reason for a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine the teaching of Hisatsune with optical fibers.

The Examiner alleged that Swiggett teaches wire application devices can apply a variety of wires including optical fibers, the description in Swiggett is irrelevant to Hisatsune. Swiggett describes as follows:

This invention relates to apparatus for making circuit boards and, more particularly, to apparatus for making circuit boards in which insulated conductors are applied and bonded to a nonconductive surface to form a conductive path between contact points thereon. The conductors may be **wires for electrical conduction or optical fibers for conducting light** between points or may be a mixture thereof.

(Swiggett et al., column 1, lines 6-13). Swiggett simply indicates that wires for electrical conduction and optical fibers for conducting light are analogous. Nothing in Swiggett shows that the field of **bonding two plates** together or in the field of **manufacturing a sheet holder** such as a card case is an analogous field of optical fiber wiring. Thus, despite the Examiner's allegation, the fact does not change that Hisatune is not analogous prior art.

Thus, because at least Hisatune is not analogous prior art, the rejection based on the combination including Hisatune has not established a prima facie case of obviousness. Also, the Examiner's allegation is nothing but a typical example of an impermissible hindsight analysis.

In view of the aforementioned accompanying remarks, Applicants submit that the claims are in condition for allowance. Applicants request such action at an early date.

If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,
WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP

/Sadao Kinashi/

Sadao Kinashi
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 48,075
Telephone: (202) 822-1100
Facsimile: (202) 822-1111

SK/kn